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COUNTRY East GermanyREPORT NO. TOPIC Military Information from Fuerstenwalde

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 15 January 1954REFERENCES 25X1APAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

SOURCE

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1. On 16 December 1953, the Pionier Kaserne in Fuerstenwalde was occupied by about 1,500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery, signal and motor transport insignia. Almost daily between 10 and 16 December, 4 T-34/85 tanks were seen moving from the barracks installation toward Walschaenke where 90 to 100 troops engaged in training on the large drill grounds.

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2. On 16 December, the barracks installation on Braunsdorfer Strasse was occupied by about 1,800 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, signal and motor transport insignia. Intensive artillery fire was daily heard from a northwesterly direction between 10 and 12 December. On 11 December, 3 trucks towing 85-mm AA guns drove toward the barracks installation. No training activity was noticed in the barracks area. On 15 December, blasts were heard at regular intervals from the Spree target range on the north bank of the Spree River near Lichtborn (sic). The throwing of hand grenades was apparently practiced there.

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3. Between 10 and 16 December, source determined that small groups of soldiers equipped with carbines or submachine guns arrived in Fuerstenwalde in almost each regular train from the direction of Frankfurt/Ider. The soldiers marched to the Pionier Kaserne and barracks installation on Braunsdorfer Strasse respectively. 1
4. Between 10 and 16 December, source determined at the commissary in Fuerstenwalde that many wives of Soviet officers had newly arrived.

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